

REMARKS

Applicants amend claims 1-7 and 9-13 and cancel claim 8. Furthermore, Applicants add claim 14. Accordingly claims 1-7 and 9-14 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claim rejections

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Putilin et al. (US 2004/0223218; hereinafter “Putilin”). Applicants traverse the rejection at least for the following reasons.

Claim 1

Applicants that claim 1, *inter alia*, recites “said bonding member having a light transmission property and being a bonding agent with which a space between said first display unit and said second display unit is filled to mechanically combine the first and second display units with each other through bonding properties of the bonding agent.”¹

Applicants submit that Putilin does not disclose the unique feature of the bonding member as recited in claim 1.

Putilin is directed towards a three dimensional imaging display without parallax barriers or specialized eye gear and without attendant loss of resolution. Putilin discloses two transmissive electronic displays screens that are positioned on behind another. Putilin discloses that a separate mask panel can be included between the two display screens (page 2, paragraph

¹ The description on page 12, line 28 describes “the bonding agent is an optical adhesive.” It is well known that an optical adhesive have bonding properties through with a particular element is mechanically combined with another element. Also, see page 8, line 24 through page 9, line 10.

[0014] and [0015]). However, Putilin does not disclose a bonding member being a bonding agent with which a space between said first display unit and said second display unit is filled to **mechanically combine the first and second display units with each other through bonding properties of the bonding agent.**

In particular, Putilin discloses a distant and near transmissive display screens 4 and 6 that are separated by a gap in which a spatial mask 5 is placed. Putilin discloses that the spatial mask 5 is a pure phase (i.e., lenticular or random screen), amplitude or complex transparency (page 3, paragraph [0038]). Furthermore, it is clear from FIG. 5 that the spatial mask 5 does not contact the display screens 4 and; Consequently, Putilin does not disclose the spatial mask 5 being a bonding agent with which the space between the display screen 4 (the alleged first display unit) and the display screen 5 (the alleged second display unit) is filled to **mechanically combine** the display screens 4 and 5 with each other through bonding properties of the bonding agent.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that claim 1 is allowable over the cited reference.

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 2-4, 7 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuroda et al. (w004/0008156, “Kuroda”) in view of Putilin. Claims 5-6 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Putilin in view of Kuroda, and further in view of Garner et al. (US 2004/0217702; hereinafter “Garner”). Applicant traverses the rejection at least for the following reasons.

Claim 7

Claim 7, *inter alia*, recites “wherein said first display unit is mechanically combined with said second display unit, the first luminescent layer of the first display unit directly coming into contact with the second substrate of the second display unit and said first luminescent layer and said second luminescent layer being placed so as to be apart from each other by a distance corresponding to a thickness of the second substrate of the second display unit on a line of sight of an observer.”²

Applicants submit that Kuroda does not disclose the unique feature of a first display unit mechanically combined with a second display unit as recited in claim 7.

Kuroda is directed to a three dimensional display apparatus and a method of the brightness modulation type, which can show advanced 3d image with a relatively small-sized and simple structure. However, as admitted by the Examiner, Kuroda does not disclose the first display unit being joined to an opposite surface of said second substrate to a second luminescent. Applicants submit that Putlin also does not disclose this feature.

In particular, as noted above with regard to claim 1, Putlin discloses a spatial mask 5 that is placed between the two display screens. However, Putlin does not disclose display screen 4 (the alleged first display unit) being mechanically combined with a second display screen 6 (the alleged second display unit) and a first luminescent layer of the display screen (the alleged first display unit) **directly coming into contact** with the second substrate of the display screen 6 (the alleged second display unit).

² See page 38, lines 8-27 and FIG. 6 of the specification. Also, see page 15, line 29 through page 17, line 7.

Furthermore, Putilin and Kuroda do not disclose said first luminescent layer and said second luminescent layer being placed so as to be apart from each other by a distance corresponding to a thickness of the second substrate of the second display unit on a line of sight of an observer.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that claim 7 is patentable over the cited references.

Claims 2-4 and 10-13

Applicant submits that Kuroda is directed to a three dimensional display apparatus provided with a plurality of display devices. However, Kuroda does not disclose the feature as recited in claim 1, that the bonding agent mechanically combines the first and second display units with each other through bonding properties of the bonding agent.

The following effects provided by the above-mentioned feature are described on page 8, line 24 through page 9, line 10 of the specification:

In the mode in which the two display units are bonded to each other by means of the bonding agent, merely making a positional determination of the two display units (e.g., the position of the pixels of the two display units) utilizing an optical microscope and then bonding the two display units to each other make it possible to manufacture the display apparatus (i.e., the apparatus for the three-dimensional display) provided with the plurality of display units. This eliminates the need for a complicated manufacturing step such as a step for aligning the display units utilizing a large-scaled apparatus, with the result that simplification of the manufacturing line and reduction of manufacturing costs can be achieved to provide the display apparatus at low cost, thus causing great advantageous effects in practice. In

addition, simplification of the structure itself of the display apparatus leads to simplification of the manufacturing steps, so as to be adapted to mass production of the display apparatus, thus causing great advantageous effects in practice."

The same effect cannot be provided by Kuroda and Putilin alone or in combination.

Applicants submit that since claims 2-4 and 10-13 depend from claim 1, and since Kuroda does not disclose the features as recited in claim 1 that the bonding agent mechanically combines the first and second display units with each other through bonding properties of the bonding agent, these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Claims 5-6 and 9

Applicants submit that since claims 5-6 and 9 depend from claim 1, and since Garner and Kuroda do not disclose the features as recited in claim 1 that the bonding agent mechanically combines the first and second display units with each other through bonding properties of the bonding agent, these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

New claim 14

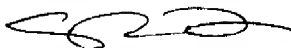
Applicants submit that claim 14, inter alia, recites, "wherein said first display unit is mechanically combined with said second display unit, the first substrate of the first display unit directly coming into contact with the second substrate of the second display unit and said first luminescent layer and said second luminescent layer being placed so as to be apart from each other by a distance corresponding to a total thickness of the first and second substrates on a line of sight of an observer." Applicants submit that Putilin and Kuroda do not disclose the features as recited in claim 14 for at least the similar reason given with regard to claim 7. Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 14 is patentable over the cited references.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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